



Kirklees Local Plan Examination

Stage 1 – Initial Hearings

Hearing Statement

**Submitted on behalf of Chidswell
Action Group**

**Matter 6 – Employment needs
and delivery**

September 2017

Matter 6 – Employment needs and delivery

Issue - Does the Plan set out a positively prepared strategy for the delivery of employment development and jobs, which is justified, effective and consistent with national policy?

1. The Chidswell Action Group has already submitted representations in relation to this issue and trust that the Inspector has these representations and will take them in to consideration. However, the Chidswell Action Group wish to make the following additional comments in relation to the specific Questions raised by the Inspector. The Chidswell Action Group may also wish to speak at the hearing in relation to Matter 6.
2. Matter 6 – question (c)
 - 2.1 The Chidswell Action Group do not consider that the “need” for employment land within the Local Plan represents an objectively assessed need.
 - 2.2 The land requirement has already been reduced by the Council and it is acknowledged that some of the supply already exists.
 - 2.3 The “need” for 175 hectares to provide 23,000 jobs does not appear to be based on market indicators and it does not appear to be an objectively assessed need as required by the NPPF.
 - 2.4 In addition this “need” fails to take account of the Enterprise Zones which are being prompted within the Leeds City Region and within Kirklees itself.
 - 2.5 There is to be an Enterprise Zone at Lindley Moor East and Lindley Moor West in Kirklees.
 - 2.6 Enterprise Zones offer financial incentives for businesses locating to the zones and will be far more attractive to businesses than proposed employment allocations such as MX1905.
 - 2.7 The Council should be working closely with the Leeds City Region to support the Enterprise Zones and the Local Plan should address the potential of Enterprise Zones and how these Zones can assist the Council in achieving sustainable development.